An

(Under 37 CFR § 1.63)

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP 120194-4220A (124784A U.S.)

As a balow named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention ENTITLED:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING DIRECT REDUCED IRON WITH IMPROVED REDUCING GAS UTILIZATION the specification of which:

is attached hereto

X was filed on February 18, 1999 as United States national Application No. with amendment(s) through \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable, give details).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

Filed (Day/Month/Year):

Priority Claimed: Yes\_\_\_No

-NONE

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior U.S. (or U.S.-designating PCT) Applications [list additional applications on separate page]:

U.S. Ser. No.: Filed (Day/Month/Year): PCT Appln. No: Status (patented, pending or abandoned): pending

I hereby appoint A. Thomas S. Safford, Registration No. 21,002, Edgar H. Haug, Registration No. 29,309, and FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP, or their duly appointed associate, my attorneys, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to file continuation and divisional applications thereof, to receive the Patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office and in the Courts in connection therewith, and specify that all communications about the application are to be directed to the following correspondence address:

A. Thomas S. Safford, Esq.

C/O FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

745 Fifth Avenue

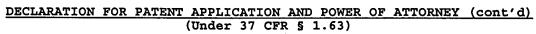
New York, New York 10151

Direct all telephone calls to: (212) 588-0800

to the attention of A. Thomas S. Safford

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United

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FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG File No. 120194-4280B (124788B U.S.)

States Code and that such willful false statements may jet application or any patent issued thereon.	opardize	the validity of the	
INVENTOR(S): Signature:	_ Date:	February /6	, 19 <u>'</u> 9
Full name of first inventor: Juan A. Villarreal-Trevino Residence: Alfredo B. Nobel 1994 Contry Sol, 3° Sector Guadalupe, N.L. Mexico			
Citizenship: Mexican			
Signature:	_ Date: _		7.4.
Full name of 2nd joint inventor (if any): Residence:			
Citizenship:			
Signature:	_ Date: _		
Full name of 3rd joint inventor (if any): Residence:			
Citizenship:			
Post Office Address(es) of inventors:			
Juan A. Villarreal-Trevino Alfredo B. Nobel 1994 Contry Sol, 3° Sector			

NOTE: In order to qualify for reduced fees available to Small Entities, each inventor and any other individual or entity having rights to the invention must also sign an appropriate separate "Verified Statement (Declaration) Claiming [or Supporting a Claim by Another for] Small Entity Status" form [e.g. for Independent Inventor, Small Business Concern, Nonprofit Organization, Individual Non-Inventor].